GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:78
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2000
COLD STORAGES
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cold storages run and maintained by the Government and the number out of them not working satisfactorily;

(b) the steps, the Government propose to take to make their working satisfactory and economical;

(c) whether there is shortage of cold storages in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a)to(d): The Government of India do not run and maintain the cold storages.However, the Government of India has a scheme under which financial assistance in the form of bank-ended capital investment subsidy is provided for construction/expansion/modernisation of cold storages and storages to the organisations such as Cooperatives, Public Sector Undertakings/Bodies, Companies, Corporations, Partnership and proprietary firms, Agricultural Produce MarketingCommittees/Boards, Growers' Associations and Non-Governmental Organisations.The scheme is being implemented by the National Horticulture Board (NHB), anautonomous organisation under the Ministry of Agriculture, through the National Bankfor Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) and National Cooperative DevelopmentCorporation (NCDC).Capital subsidy @ 25% of the total project cost subject to a maximum of Rs.50.00 lakhs and for North-Eastern States @ 33.33% subject to amaximum limit of Rs.60.00 lakh is provided. The scheme is applicable to all those States/Union Territories, which do not control rentals.

With a view to develop storages and cold storages facilities, the Government ofIndia constituted a High Level Expert Committee (HLEC) on 20.11.98.The Committeeconsidered the status of cold storage industry, identified constraints in the way of development of cold storages/storages and suggested incentives for its growth and development. The Committee suggested inter-alia creation/expansion of 12 lakh tonnes and rehabilitation/modernisation of 8 lakh tonnes of cold storage capacity in the country during 9th Five Year Plan. In the light of recommendations of the Committee, theGovernment approved in December, 1999, the above mentioned scheme at an outlay of Rs.175.00 crores.